निर्धन लोग तो हमारे देश से पावर्टी समाप्त हो जाएंगी। तो वह कौन सा प्रोसेस एडाप्ट कर रहे हैं पीपुल्स पार्टिसिपेशन का, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, there is a clear-cut policy to immediately start the process of passing the Panchayati Raj Bill. Secondly, we have to develop a national grid for developing the voluntary organizations and monitor their working for the emancipation of the rural poor. Then, the cooperative movement has to be strengthened. This is the thrust of the implementation of the 'Eigth Plan. This is going to the NDC very shortly and we will implement this.

SHRI M. PALANIYANDI: Sir, they have omitted the elected members of the Legislature for participation in the implementation Of the programme. In the poverty alleviation programmes also they are not taking the .members of the legislature as well as Members of Parliament. I want to know whether the Government would come frward to associate them also with the implementation of these programmes.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Definitely, Sir, the elected representatives will have to be given their due say in the planning process.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Declining Percentage of Per Capita Income in Rajasthan

*181. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percen tage of per capita income of Rajasthan ii declining in comparison to national average; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Recommendation of the Standing Committee of the SAARC Countries

*186. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Standing Committee of the SAARC has recommended consultations with the ASEAN. E. C. and ADB before the next SAARC Summit;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it had suggested U.N. Cooperation in SAARC projects in core economic areas; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF, EXTERNAL. AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of India holds the view that cooperation between SAARC and external organisations should be based on SAARC's own initiatives and requirements.

Diplomatic Missions without Heads

*187. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several of our diplomatic missions abroad have been without full-fledged Heads for quite some time;

(b) if so, what is the list of such missions and for how long these have been without a proper Head; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?